



## Tooele Army Depot Launches *Click It or Ticket* Mobilization

From November 17 to 30, 2003, law enforcement officers across the State of Utah will be stepping up enforcement of the State's safety belt law by issuing tickets to those who fail to buckle up during the nationwide *Click it or Ticket* mobilization.

The goal of the effort, which will put a special emphasis on teens and young adults, is to boost the State's safety belt use rate and reduce fatalities. Even though most people buckle up, two-thirds of the motor vehicle occupants killed in crashes last year were unrestrained. Each percentage-point increase in safety belt use nationally represents 270 more lives saved and 4,600 serious injuries prevented annually.

Safety belt use is especially important for teens and young adults. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for people age 15-34 in the United States.

The Utah Highway Patrol wants to warn everyone on the road this November to buckle up—or face a ticket. They stated that issuing tickets isn't fun, but it's better than pulling bodies from crash sites. They will be showing zero tolerance for anyone not wearing a safety belt as a way to protect everyone from losing their lives in a crash.

For the past few years, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has helped states implement the *Click It or Ticket* program across the country. The efforts use paid advertising and the news media to increase awareness of the law enforcement effort—an approach that has shown impressive results. The 10 states that conducted the most comprehensive *Click It or Ticket* efforts in May 2002 boosted safety belt use by an average of 8.6% points over four weeks.

After major *Click It or Ticket* efforts this past Spring, the national safety belt use rate stood at 79%, which represents a 4% point gain over the previous year. Approximately 17% of belt nonusers were converted to users during the past year alone, twice the rate seen in previous years.

"We are committed to the *Click It or Ticket* strategy," said NHTSA Administrator Jeffery Runge. "Tickets are a strong deterrent. Our approach ensures the word gets out that law enforcement is serious. Drivers are warned and belt use rises. The results are meaningful: Fewer deaths on the nation's roads."

"High visibility enforcement saves lives," said LTC Karol L. Ripley, TEAD commander. "Our goal is to make sure everyone on the road, whether passenger or driver, knows they are more at risk, not just of getting a ticket, but for suffering a serious injury or death, if they don't buckle up."

Since the beginning of the summer, Tooele Army Depot has been very active with their safety belt campaign. Road signs have been posted, flyers and newsletters distributed, and several hand outs for the workforce have been given away.

"Have a safe holiday and remember if you are traveling, buckle up."

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LTC Karol L. Ripley,  
TEAD Commander

Ladies and Gentlemen, Fall is definitely in full swing and has caught us at a very busy time of year. COL(P) Radin's visit on 16 October went exceptionally well. He started his day with his physical training program (PT) in our top-notch fitness center. We began our official visit with staff introductions and then a short TEAD Command Overview Video (he commented that he liked the historical links in this video) and Southwest Asia build-up video. We provided a short installation profile brief that gave the demographics of the workforce and a summary of our workload. The rest of the morning was spent visiting support and MWR areas. He toured Wherry Housing and took a windshield tour of the barracks

# Commander's Corner

area. While touring our MWR area he repeatedly stated what a fantastic program and facilities we have. "I encourage you all to take advantage of this benefit of working here," COL(P) Radin stated. The fire department gave an excellent HAZMAT demonstration for which COL(P) Radin was very appreciative. It was very informative. He then had the opportunity to tour the Pilot Model Shop and drive the remote controlled mini-flail machine. When he saw the operations at the shop he asked us to consider partnering with local schools, i.e., bring a welding shop class out to see Tradesmen in action and to see the end products. He toured the Information Management Division and was brought up to speed on our many information management accomplishments. Next we had lunch at the dining facility with our Force Protection leadership. He appreciated the opportunity to meet with them and to have lunch with the soldiers. The afternoon was spent in the Operations Area. Briefings were held on site by the subject matter experts, that's you and your peers. He really enjoyed meeting with and talking to the workforce; it was very noticeable that he is

a personable individual. He toured the LCL building, 40mm line, MILVAN Repair Facility, Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) and Wind Corrected Munitions (WCMD) buildings. At each location he received very informative briefings and had many positive comments to make about our people and operations. He got involved with as much of the operation as he could (hands on) and he even got the opportunity to drive the Super Stacker. As you can imagine, he got quite an in-depth look of our operations for a one day visit and thanks to you all, he left here with a very positive image of TEAD. JOB WELL DONE.



COL(P) Radin operating the Super Stacker in the Directorate of Ammunition Operations.

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This issue and previous issues of the *Desert Star* can be viewed on the TEAD web site.

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## Civilian Welfare Fund Sponsors Discount Movie Tickets

Tooele Cinema 6 movie tickets will be available for sale beginning 27 Oct 2003, at a discount price of \$4.00 per ticket (regular price \$6.50). Tickets may be purchased at the Information, Ticketing and Registration (ITR), Building 1001, during their regular duty hours. These tickets are good for all days and times.

This offer is good for all Tooele Army Depot and Deseret Chemical Depot employees, to include military and contract personnel. Depot picture badge must be presented upon purchase. Limit for ticket purchases are 4 tickets per visit, not more than 8 tickets purchased per month, per employee.

**Look for more Civilian Welfare Fund sponsored discounts in the future!**

### CFC ready for a big year-

By Kathy Anderson, Public Affairs

"What makes America Great?" is the theme for this year's Combined Federal Campaign. The 2003 CFC drive began base wide Oct 7 and will run through Nov 20.

Last year, TEAD's and DCD's combined contributions totaled approximately \$45,000. Nationwide, people donated \$237 million, second only to the 2001 post-Sept. 11 campaign.

This year's goal for TEAD and DCD is to make sure 100% of the employees be personally offered the opportunity to contribute.

CFC is set up to be an efficient, meaningful, once-a-year appeal to serve the charitable needs of the local community. The campaign was established in 1961 and is the largest workplace charity campaign in the country. This annual fall fundraising drive allows nearly 4 million federal employees and service members to contribute to thousands of local and national non-profit organizations. Contributions can be made in cash, by check or by payroll deduction.

On average, one in four federal employees, or their family members, will benefit from the CFC charities this year alone, according to CFC officials. Donors may designate which charity or charities receive their money by filling out a pledge card. "This is a great chance to combine our resources. We've all been given a lot and this is a chance to give back. There's a charity in their for everybody," said Janice Allred, TEAD's CFC Project Officer.

TEAD and DCD had their 2003 CFC kick-off at the TEAD Eagle's Nest Theater, October 7, 2003.

### Closure of Recycling Yard -

The Defense Ammunition Center (DAC) Review of Ammunition Operations performed at TEAD in August of this year identified a number of inconsistencies with recent Department of Defense (DoD) regulations and policies concerning TEAD's Recycling Program.

Following the DAC review, a study of the Recycling Program was conducted to look at what needed to be done to bring the program into compliance with DoD requirements and to determine an economical method for operation of the Recycling program.

TEAD's Recycling Program consists of several different methods. The most well known is the operation of the Recycle Yard, where many different types of materials have either been picked up at generation points by recycle yard employees or delivered directly to the yard. Other types of recycling that TEAD participates in include the recycling of forklift and automotive batteries, used oil, green waste (landscaping waste) and wood through the Tooele County landfill-composting program. These last types of recycling described are performed without the involvement of the Recycle Yard.

Recent DoD requirements and recyclable material market conditions have both contributed to make future operation of the Recycle Yard uneconomical. In the competitive business environment that TEAD operates in it is essential that all our operations remain economical to contribute towards our overall success. In fact, the same DoD requirements for recycling programs state that the program must provide an economic benefit in order to continue.

As a result, the TEAD Recycle yard operation will be discontinued immediately. TEAD will continue to recycle scrap metal, batteries, used oil, and green waste. Through these efforts, we regularly exceed goals established by DoD.

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## Closure of Recycle Yard continued...

In the past, you have contributed to the Recycle Yard operation in the following ways:

- Collection of office paper for pick up by Recycle Yard employees.
- Collection of cardboard and wood in dumpsters provided by the Recycle Yard.
- Delivery of material for recycling directly to the Recycle Yard.

As a result of the decision to discontinue Recycle yard operations, the efforts listed above will also need to be discontinued. The materials described above which were previously collected for recycling will need to be disposed of in solid waste containers from this point forward.

You may continue to contribute to our overall environmental stewardship responsibilities by reducing the amount of paper and other products that are disposed of as solid waste, reclaiming usable material for future use, and purchasing products manufactured from recycled material. In doing these types of things, we contribute to the reduction of solid waste being sent to landfills, and help create markets and demand for recyclable materials.

In addition, we will continue to evaluate the types and amounts of solid waste being disposed of and recycling market conditions to determine if an economic benefit would be realized through the recycling of additional materials. Any thoughts or ideas you may have for recycling solid wastes are welcome.

Through these efforts we will continue to demonstrate our overall environmental stewardship, while at the same time improving our economical operating picture.



## Federal employees face insurance premium hike in 2004 -

By Tanya N. Ballard, GovExec.Com

Health insurance premiums for federal employees will increase by an average of 10.6 percent next year, the Office of Personnel Management announced Sept. 16.

Government workers with self-only insurance coverage will pay an average of \$5.01 more per pay period, or \$130.26 annually. Workers with family coverage will pay an average of \$11.95 more per pay period, or \$310.70 annually. The Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) provides health care coverage for 8.3 million federal employees, retirees and their families.

The premium hike for 2004 is the fourth consecutive annual increase above 10%, for the FEHBP, but OPM Director Kay Coles James said the increase is one of the lowest in the country. According to a December 2002 General Accounting Office report (03-236), FEHBP premiums increased an average of 6% a year from 1991 to 2002, a rate similar to those of other large health plans.

"Even with nationwide reports citing health insurance premium increases ranging as high as 18% increase at 10.6%, making many choices in the consumer and market-driven FEHB (program) among the most reasonably priced in the nation," James said. "I believe the FEHB program is a model of efficiency and effectiveness."

OPM said increased costs for prescription drugs, greater use of medical services and an aging workforce led to the double-digit increase.

Federal employees and retirees can change their health insurance plans during open season, which runs from Nov 10 to Dec 8.

The number of health plans will rise to 205, with 17 new insurance plans joining the FEHBP in 2004.

However, many plans have changed their benefits or premiums for 2004, leading some union and congressional leaders to renew the call for increasing the government's contribution to federal employees' health insurance premiums.

"Other large employers in the public and private sector contribute between 85 and 100 percent of the premiums for their employees," said American Federation of Government Employees President John Gage. "Yet, because of the current formula used to calculate federal employees' costs, the federal government pays only 70% of health care premiums."

House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer, introduced legislation (H.R. 577) in February that would raise the government's contribution to federal employee insurance premiums.

"If we expect the federal government to compete with the private sector for skilled workers, it is time we give serious consideration to raising the government's contribution level and provide employees with a benefit most have asked for dental insurance," said Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, following OPM's announcement. OPM will post the 2004 premium rates on its Web site at [Http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/index.asp](http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/index.asp).

# National American Indian Heritage Month

**A**lthough the first “American Indian Day” was declared by the State of New York in 1916, a month long recognition of Native Americans was not achieved until 1990. In that year, President George Bush declared the first National American Indian Heritage Month on August 3. In each of the four previous years, Congress had enacted legislation designating “American Indian Heritage Week.” This consecutive legislation followed for the establishment of a month-long observance.

The purpose of National American Indian Heritage Month is to honor and recognize the original peoples of this land. The 1996 proclamation details their contributions to the past and to the future:

*Throughout our history, American Indian and Alaska Native peoples have been an integral part of the American character. Against the odds, America's first peoples have endured, and they remain a vital cultural, political, social, and moral presence. Tribal America has brought to this great country certain values and ideas that have become ingrained in the American spirit: the knowledge that humans can thrive and prosper without destroying the natural environment; the understanding that people from very different backgrounds, cultures, religions, and traditions can come together to build a great country; and the awareness that diversity can be a source of strength rather than division.*

*As we celebrate American Indian Heritage Month this year, we take note of the injustices that have been suffered by American Indian people. Even today, few enjoy the full bounty of America's prosperity.*

*But even as we look t the past, we must also look to the future. Along with other Americans, American Indians and Alaska Natives will face new challenges in the coming century. We can ill afford to leave any of our people behind. Tribal America must figure as prominently in our future as it has in our past.*

*Let us rededicate ourselves to the principle that all Americans have the tools to make the most of their God-given potential. For Indian tribes and tribal members, this means that the authority of tribal governments must be accorded the respect and support to which they are entitled under the law. It means that American Indian children and youth must be provided a solid education and the opportunity to go on to college. It means that more must be done to stimulate tribal economies, create jobs, and increase economic opportunities.*

*Our bridge to the 21st century will rest upon the foundation we build today. We must teach our children about our past—both the good and the bad—so that they may learn from our successes and mistakes. We must provide our children with the knowledge and skills to permit them to surpass our own achievements and create a stronger, more united American community. We must provide them greater opportunity. It was the Iroquois who taught that in every deliberation we should consider the impact of our decisions on the next 7 generations.*

*In recognition of the important contributions of American Indian and Alaska Native peoples to our country and in light of the special legal relationship between the tribes and the Government of the United States, and obligations pursuant thereto, we celebrate National American Indian Heritage Month.*



## WARNING concerning Hotel Key Cards -

Southern California law enforcement professionals assigned to detect new threats to personal security issues, recently discovered what type of information is embedded in the credit card type hotel room keys used through-out the industry.

Although room keys differ from hotel to hotel, a key obtained from one well-known hotel chain that was being used for a regional Identity Theft Presentation was found to contain the following information:

- Customers (your) name
- Customers partial home address
- Hotel room number
- Check in date and check out date
- Customers (your) credit card number and expiration date!

When you turn them in to the front desk your personal information is there for any employee to access by simply scanning the card in the hotel scanner. An employee can

take a hand full of cards home and using a scanning device, access the information onto a laptop computer and go shopping at your expense.

Simply put, hotels do not erase these cards until an employee issues the card to the next hotel guest. It is usually kept in a drawer at the front desk with **YOUR INFORMATION ON IT!**

The bottom line is, keep the cards or destroy them! NEVER leave them behind and NEVER turn them in to the front desk when you check out of a room. They will not charge you for the cards.

Information courtesy of Sergeant K. Jorge, Detective Sergeant, Pasadena Police Department.

# OPERATION TRIBUTE TO FREEDOM



Operation Tribute to Freedom is a Department of Defense program of nationwide celebrations and activities to demonstrate public appreciation for American men and women in uniform and reinforce the bond between the citizenry and the military. The program's mission is to encourage Americans to express their support for the troops who are returning from operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and who continue to fight in the ongoing effort toward victory in the Global War On Terrorism.

## MISSION STATEMENT -

- To ensure that members of the U.S. armed forces, whether serving at home or abroad, are recognized by the American people for their accomplishments and sacrifices in the global war against terrorism.
- To facilitate Americans' expressions of support and appreciation for U.S. men and women in uniform.
- To strengthen the bond between American citizens and the U.S. military.

Every day 1.4 million active duty soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines voluntarily put their lives at risk to safeguard our freedom and way of life. At any given moment, our troops are: Flying combat missions in Southwest Asia, providing security and humanitarian and civil affairs support in Iraq, hunting terrorists in the caves of Afghanistan, maintaining ships and submarines across the vast reaches of the oceans. Guarding terrorists at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba, peering into the dark world of terrorism as intelligence analysts, and taking care of service members and their families as health care professionals or working on strategies to defeat bio-terror here at home.

We all have a role to play in defending peace and freedom: Employers pay a critical role in the national defense by supporting the National Guard and

The war on terrorism will not end until all terrorist networks with global reach are found, stopped and defeated. Until that day, we must all do our part.

You can go to the Operation Tribute to Freedom web site at [www.defendamerica.mil](http://www.defendamerica.mil) and sign up to support our troops!

Veterans Day is November 11, 2003. A day to commemorate our country's war and military veterans.

LTC Karol L. Ripley, TEAD commander, will be the guest speaker at the Veterans Day ceremony that will be held on Nov. 11, at 11:00 a.m., at the Deseret Peak Complex, Fire Museum.



CELEBRATING

AMERICA'S

FREEDOMS





# Employee Corner



Dale Allen was born February 13, 1955 in Wurzburg, Germany. He went to school in Tooele, then spent four years in the Army. Dale worked as a Security Guard, went to Shop Supply Division, then he worked as a mechanic in the Maintenance Directorate. Dale came to the Directorate of Ammunition Operations from the Battery Shop. He retired from the Utah National Guard in 1997 after 23 years of service. He and his wife have been married for 11 years. He says she has supported him in his career.

Pictured to the left, LTC Karol L. Ripley, TEAD commander, presented Dale with his 30 years of federal service award.



Darwin Jones was trained in the Army as a radar mechanic and it was this training that helped him start his career at Tooele Army Depot as an electronic technician in the Nike Hercules Missile Program. He had planned to do clean work at a bench, but after one year, he was moved to the Gas Turbine Generator Section during this first RIF action. He spent the next 7 years rebuilding voltage regulators, electronic test equipment, components, and gas turbine engines for the power station used to power the military field hospital. Darwin retired as a MSG from HHB, 1st Corp Artillery, Utah National Guard after 23 years. He served as a radar mechanic, radar operations Sergeant, Gunnery Sergeant of a 155mm firing battery, Corp NBC NCO, 1st Sgt and Operations SGT.

Pictured to the left, LTC Karol L. Ripley, TEAD commander, presented Darwin with his 30 years of federal service award.



Jess Barrett, born in San Francisco, CA, graduated from Crestmoor High School in San Bruno, CA. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1968 as an aircraft radio specialist. He cross trained to a Law Enforcement Specialist. Jess was discharged from the Air Force in 1979. He then started work in Civil Service with the Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Prisons, Lompoc Federal Prison. He transferred to Tooele Army Depot in 1980 as a Security Guard. Jess has also worked in the Directorate of Ammunition Operation and his current position in the Safety Office.

LTC Karol L. Ripley, TEAD commander, presented Jess with his 35 years of federal service award.

## Events for November

- **Nov 2—Sadie Hawkins Day.** A popular occasion, created in the 1930s by the “Li'l Abner” comic strip, when women and girls are encouraged to ask a man or boy out for a date.
- **Nov 5—General Election Day.** Many state and local government elections are held. Additionally, all U.S. congressional seats and one-third of U.S. senatorial seats are decided.
- **Nov 11—Veterans Day.** To honor the sacrifices and contributions of those men and women who served in the Armed Services. Formerly known as “Armistice Day.”
- **Nov 20—Great American Smokeout.** To celebrate smoke-free environments.
- **Nov 27—Thanksgiving.** National holiday to commemorate the harvest reaped by the Pilgrims of Plymouth Colony in 1621 after a winter of great starvation. The customary turkey dinner is a reminder of the four wild turkeys served on that first Thanksgiving celebration.
- **Nov 30—Computer Security Day.** To remind people to take precautions to protect their hardware, software and data at home and at work.

### Weekly Events in November:

- **Nov 8—14—Pursuit of Happiness Week.** To remind everyone, as stated in the Declaration of Independence, that all men and women are “endowed by the creator with certain unalienable rights, that among them are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”
- **Nov 8—14—National Split Pea Soup Week.** To promote the use of split peas (instead of whole peas) in split pea soup.
- **Nov 16-22—American Education Week.** To generate public support for education.
- **Nov 30—Dec 7—Hanukkah.** Jewish festival commemorating the victory of the Maccabees over the Syrians and the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem.

**Veterans Day  
November 11**

**Election Day  
November 5**